



09600SR0560 Enrolled

LRB096 16036 MJR 31284 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 560

2 WHEREAS, A recent analysis shows that more than half of all
3 Illinois children suspended from public schools are
4 African-American, even though they represent less than
5 one-fifth of the enrollment; and

6 WHEREAS, Expulsion rates also disproportionately hit
7 African-American students, causing them to miss more classroom
8 instruction time, which leads to increased rates of dropouts,
9 joblessness, and incarceration; and

10 WHEREAS, In the last decade, suspensions of
11 African-American students have escalated by 75% while those of
12 white students have dropped more than 5%; white students are
13 expelled 16% more often than they were 10 years ago, but
14 African-American students are expelled 56% more often; and

15 WHEREAS, Caucasian students make up nearly three-fifths of
16 public school enrollment, yet in the most recent data, they
17 account for one-third or fewer of both suspensions and
18 expulsions; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the Task Force on
21 Eliminating Racial Bias in Suspensions and Expulsions be

1 convened, consisting of 15 members, who shall serve without
2 compensation, as follows:

3 (1) one member appointed by the Governor, who shall
4 serve as chair;

5 (2) one member appointed by the President of the
6 Senate;

7 (3) one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of
8 Representatives;

9 (4) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
10 Senate;

11 (5) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
12 House of Representatives;

13 (6) one member appointed by the Chairperson of the
14 Illinois State Board of Education;

15 (7) one member appointed by the Governor upon the
16 recommendation of an association representing school
17 boards;

18 (8) one member appointed by the Governor upon the
19 recommendation of the Chicago Board of Education;

20 (9) one member appointed by the Governor upon the
21 recommendation of an organization representing teachers;

22 (10) one member appointed by the Governor upon the
23 recommendation of a different organization representing
24 teachers;

25 (11) one member appointed by the Governor upon the
26 recommendation of an association representing regional

1 superintendents, who shall have expertise in administering
2 a regional safe school program; and

3 (12) one member appointed by the Governor upon the
4 recommendation of an organization representing collar
5 county school districts;

6 (13) one member appointed by the Governor upon the
7 recommendation of an organization representing suburban
8 school districts;

9 (14) one member appointed by the Governor upon the
10 recommendation of an organization representing large unit
11 school districts; and

12 (15) one member appointed by the Governor upon the
13 recommendation of an organization representing parents and
14 teachers; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall examine the causes of
16 the racial gap in suspension and expulsion rates, consider the
17 long-term implications of the inequity, and issue a report to
18 the General Assembly by May 1, 2010 that makes recommendations
19 for removing bias from the suspension and expulsion processes;
20 and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall be dissolved upon
22 filing its report with the General Assembly.